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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides a method for convenient analysis and cell separation of antigen-specific T cells based on one or more products secreted by these cells in response to antigen stimulation. The T cells are provided with a capture moiety for the product, which can then be used directly as a label in some instances, or the bound product can be further labeled via label moieties that bind specifically to the product and that are labeled with traditional labeling materials such as fluorophores, radioactive isotopes, chromophores or magnetic particles. The labeled cells are then separated using standard cell sorting techniques based on these labels. Such techniques include flow cytometry, magnetic gradient separation, centrifugation, and the like.